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to 0.2 sec. and recovering a modified fiber having said resistant properties.

15. (Once amended) A modified dietary fiber made by the process according to any one of claims 1, 10, 11, 12 or 13 [to 14].

Please add the following claims:

16. (NEW) A modified dietary fiber having reduced water and oil holding capacities prepared according to claim 10, wherein said fiber is selected from the group consisting of cellulose and wheat fiber.

17. (NEW) A modified dietary fiber having increased water and oil holding capacities prepared according to claim 11, wherein said fiber is selected from the group consisting of soy, wheat bran, oat and oat hull fibers.

REMARKS

The amendment above cancels eight dependent claims and adds two new dependent claims. Accordingly, no claim amendment fee is due.

Applicants' attorney appreciates the helpful comments of the Examiner during the telephone interview on May 14, 2001. The foregoing preliminary amendment incorporates the claim modifications discussed. Allowance of the claims in view of the following remarks is requested respectfully.

Discussion of the Amended Claims

The present invention as amended relates to a process for modifying the properties of

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particulate dietary fiber material consisting *essentially of indigestible fiber* by dispersing said particulate material in a liquid media, applying an abrupt pressure change *by mechanical means* to the particulate material in the liquid media, and recovering the modified dietary fiber material from the liquid media.

Support for the amendment to claims 1, 10, 11, 12 and 13 to add the language "indigestible fiber" is found on page 1, line 25.


Support for the amendment to claim 1 to add the language "by mechanical means" is found on page 4, line 10, and throughout the specification.

Support for new claims 16 and 17 is found in the experimental examples as well as in parent claims 10 and 11.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, favorable reconsideration and prompt notice of allowance of all of the pending claims are requested respectfully.

Should the Examiner continue to have any doubts as to the allowability of any of the claims, he is requested respectfully to telephone the applicants' undersigned attorney to discuss same before issuing further action, as it is believed such discussion would help to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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